January 14, 1999



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF TEXAS

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OR99-0105

Dear Mr. Crull:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Open Records Act, chapter 552 of the Government Code. Your request was assigned ID# 122212.

You assert that section 552.103 of the Government Code excepts from disclosure the requested information. Section 552.103(a) of the Government Code reads as follows:

- (a) Information is excepted from [required public disclosure] if it is information:
 - (1) relating to litigation of a civil or criminal nature or settlement negotiations, to which the state or a political subdivision is or may be a party or to which an officer or employee of the state or a political subdivision, as a consequence of the person's office or employment, is or may be a party; and
 - (2) that the attorney general or the attorney of the political subdivision has determined should be withheld from public inspection.

A governmental body has the burden of providing relevant facts and documents to show the applicability of an exception in a particular situation. The test for